



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : LEARNING AND LAESCYP MEETING

MONDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER, 2015

PRESENT: Councillor L Mytton (**In the Chair**)

Councillors S Williams, M Davies, G Lewis, K Moran, S Slater
and C Tovey

Councillors P Williams and L Matthews – Cabinet

Cooptees:

Alan Rees

Officers:

Teresa Winiarski (ALN Manager), Chris Hole (Manager for Early
Years and Youth) and Jo Colsey (Head of School Improvement)

Howard Jones (Scrutiny Officer) and Mair Morgan (Scrutiny /
Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
733	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Mrs T Bradley and Mrs M Harris Co-opted Members.
734	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
735	Quality of provision for ALN pupils and the impact in terms of	The Chair welcomed Jo Colsey, Chris Hughes and Teresa Winiarski to the Meeting.

outputs and outcomes

Teresa Winiarski led the Committee through the 'Quality of Provision for ALN Pupils and the Impact in Terms of Outputs and Outcomes report'.

The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by the Officers:

- In 2013-14 outcomes for pupils with ALN were judged adequate as they were at the time of the Estyn Inspection in 2012 – Attainment or Value added progress over time –Why adequate after three years
- B Squared Assessment Software and Capita 1 System – Collation of different data and do they work in conjunction or is it additional data
- Fewer pupils are Statemented in Merthyr Tydfil – Any Plan to standardise this
- The Capita 1 System and the extra software giving improved data - can the reason be given for target slippage
- Is Greenfield School being used as a model for other schools
- Paragraph 4.2 of the report – Why is there discrepancy in the criteria between School Action and School Action Plus
- The number of incidents resulting in exclusion for pupils EOTAS has reduced significantly from 855 in 2012 to 150 in 2015 – More details were requested on this point
- Appendix 1 – School Action and School Action Plus – Request made by the Committee for information for Statements – Teresa Winiarski advised that this information would be circulated to Members
- The number of SENCO's employed – is it one per school
- The amount of paperwork that SENCO's have to complete
- The time taken by SENCO's to complete paperwork
- The effect on Schools Budgets if staff are non teaching SENCO's
- Is there a computer programme for each child and it is revised termly
- Concerns were expressed regarding the amount of Funding. Can the level of Training be maintained, will staffing levels be the same, could the

		<p>programme be jeopardised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph 7.2 of the report – Request for the timetable for Consultation • Is there funding on a Cluster basis • As Greenfield School is at capacity, are other Schools struggling with resources, are there more children in mainstream schools • What is the impact of the Draft Bill on building capacity <p>The Chair then thanked the Officers for the update to the Committee and the response to the questions raised.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The contents of the report be accepted.</p>
736	<p>Improving the Quality and Performance of Local Authority Education Services for Children and Young People - R7 Youth Support Services</p>	<p>Chris Hole referred the Committee to the 'Improving the Quality and Performance of Local Authority Education Services for Children and Young People – R7 Youth Support Services' report.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The manner and frequency of Meetings with other agencies, the SIP Group and if there are formal Meetings who is the Chair • Are there shared Strategies • Evaluate provision which met the identified gaps e.g Mental Health Services, Young Carers, Children with Disabilities through Families First in order to ensure Services are meeting the needs through reshaping and commissioning – The timeline for Evaluation • Consultation with third sector providers to gather their views on how these services for young people could be further enhanced – When will the Consultation start • Paragraph 4.2 of the report – Families First Community Counselling – How many families did not get to access the facility. Chris Hole advised that he would supply these figures to the Members. • How many people were asked to respond • Recommendation Seven – Were the Officers happy that this recommendation had been met • How quickly before the Authority will have the data

		<p>back</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the Authority able to address the lack of the medium of Welsh in youth work • Why was the Merthyr Noise Website closed by Welsh Government • Do we know how many young people are not being tracked • Are there any third sector people not co-operating or are they all co-operating <p>The Chair then thanked the Officers for the update to the Committee and the response to the questions raised.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The content of the report be noted.</p>
737	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	The Chair advised that there was no update on this item.
738	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected in detail on the issues that had been considered at the Meeting.
739	Forward Work Programme	The Committee considered and agreed the Forward Work Programme.
740	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.